American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY

"O Fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint
"Agricolas." . . . . *Virg.*

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THE AMERICAN FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL SANDS.

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☞*History and Characteristics of the several breeds of Sheep, &c.*—The treatise under the above head, which we commence to day, is one of intrinsic value, and will be so esteemed by the reader. We shall conclude it in our next; after which, we shall follow up our extracts from the *Transactions of the N. Y. State Society*, with some other of the interesting papers which abound in it. The present paper contains information rarely to be met with, but which should be known by every one connect- with sheep husbandry. The writer evidently divested his mind of all prejudices, and entered upon his work with the fairness of an impartial historian, which circumstance will entitle his opinions and views to the greater degree of respect and consideration.

☞*New Flour.*—We perceive by a *North Carolina* paper, that wheat of the present crop was there ground into flour at least two weeks since. What a country of climates and seasons is this of ours! While our friends of the old North State are enjoying their hot muffins, made from *new* flour, and seriously thinking of a mess of roasting-ears, those in the East have scarcely become thawed from the frosts of last winter, and may not be called upon for six weeks yet, to discharge the duties of the harvest field.

☞*Hovey's Seedling Strawberry*—We were presented a few days since, by an esteemed friend, with a basket of this delicious fruit, the largest and finest specimens we have ever beheld. Our friend has promised to spare us some of the plants the ensuing fall, and could also furnish some few dozens to others who may wish to obtain this fine and highly celebrated variety, at a reasonable rate.

Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry—Though we have not been favored with the perusal of this work; from the extracts we have seen from it, we are disposed to consider it an acquisition to agricultural knowledge. The work contains a course of lectures delivered before the Durham Agricultural Society, England, comprised of practical farmers. And as most of the members of the society possessed no knowledge of chemistry, the author, as we learn, very properly discussed the elementary principles of that science, in a way to be understood by his hearers, divesting his lectures of all parade of scientific terms, until they had become familiar with their meaning by previous explanations.

It will be seen by our prices current (which we copy from the American) that about 2000 hhds. of Tobacco were inspected in this city during the past week.

☞*Remedies for Vines—Cabbage plants and Turnips.*—A correspondent asks whether we, "or a correspondent can put him in a way to exterminate the *striped bug*, so fatal to Cucumbers and other vines?"

We can only say, that we have protected our vines—cucumbers—melons, canteleupes and pumpkins—by watering them night and morning with a decoction made of *elder*, *wormseed*, *soot*, *garlic* and *sulphur*, boiled sufficiently long to extract the aroma of each, the which, when cold, we applied night and morning with a *small* watering pot, and as soon as this sprinkling was done, we dusted the plants with a mixture of soot and snuff. This means must be continued to be used until the plants are too old to be preyed upon by the bug. The remedy often, we apprehend, fails because of its not being persevered in. The dregs of this decoction may be filled up two or three times. It is best to confine the sulphur in a bag.

He asks also, for a remedy against the *fly* or *flea*, so destructive to *cabbage plants* and *turnips*.

We have used the above remedy for cabbage plants also, with success.

For *turnips*, our remedy has been *fish oil*, which we distributed with a mop of rags fixed on a stick, dusting the plants at the same time with soot or ashes. This remedy, like the first, must be applied daily for several days, until the turnips get into the tough leaf, and, of course, beyond injury from the fly or flea.

With *turnips* we have also succeeded by making a strong decoction of assafœtida, and mixing that with ashes and sowing the ashes on the plants; repeating the same for three or four mornings in succession, and taking care too, to commence the operation as soon as the turnip plants got above ground, and continuing it every *morning*, *early*, until they were beyond harm's way.

Whoever undertakes to protect his plants against any of the insect tribe, must not halt in his labors, until he has effectuated his object. To apply a remedy once, and then *desist*, is to repose upon an insecurity, as the wind and air, or rain may undo all he has done. *To succeed he must continue his applications* until the plants are too old to be preyed upon,—and then, he may promise himself the pleasure of reaping the reward of his labors.

We once drove the grass-hoppers from our *beets*, by strewing refuse *fish salt* over them; whether it would prove equally repulsive to the turnip fly, we know not; but think it highly probable that it would; it might be well for our correspondent to make the trial, as at all events, its cost would not be lost, inasmuch as it would act as a manure to his ground, should it fail in driving off the enemy.

We would advise him too, to get a barrel of ammoniacal liquor from the gas house, and to add to every gallon of it, four of water, and in that diluted state to water his turnips, cabbage plants, or vines with it. This we recommend without any knowledge of its preventive effects, but believe that it would prove so, as its aroma is very offensive, and may be retained for a long time by sowing plaster on it immediately after its application.

Ants—*Method of destroying them*—Having heard that *ants* have become destructive to fruit trees, and particularly to the Pear, we deem it our duty to prescribe a method by which they may be destroyed.

In the first place, let a solution of sugar and water, honey and water, or molasses and water, be placed in small pots, or bowls, around the body of the tree infested with them, to which they will be attracted by their natural fondness for such sweets. In this, large numbers of them will, in their efforts to partake of the sweetened beverage, be drowned.

Secondly. Prepare a mixture consisting of half a gallon of soft soap, ½lb. of flour of sulphur, an equal quantity of Scotch snuff, and 1 pint of salt. Mix them well together, and in the evening after the ants have retired to rest, paint the body of the tree with a painter's brush, from the earth up as far as you can well reach, taking care to put on a thick coat, which must be renewed, as often as it dries, for several days.

Thirdly. To make sure work, have boiling water, in which salt must be infused, poured in the ant hills; this must be done too, after the insects have ensconced themselves for the night, as otherwise their destruction would be partial.

No fear need be apprehended of the tree being injured by the boiling water, as plants have been thus served with water at from 130 to 200 degrees of heat, without the slightest injury resulting therefrom.

Fourthly. Quicklime placed upon the ant-hills, by being slaked thereon, will also destroy ants.

Destruction of Moles—The following recipes for destroying moles, we abstract from an English work by Ch. Fothergill, of Salisbury, England.

1. Make a paste with powdered hellebore roots, wheat flour and ground glass, place it near their holes to eat, and you will soon destroy them.

2. Make a mixture of brimstone, rosin and turpentine, put them into a horn with a narrow neck, first enveloping the same in tar, set fire to the tow thus prepared, then insert the mouth of the horn into the hole of the mole, and he will soon be suffocated to death.

The Corn Crop—We are pained to learn from the Centreville Times, that, owing to the coolness of the spring, the Corn in Queen Anne's county has been greatly injured by the grub and cut worms. From various other quarters we hear the same complaint—and also that the Oat crop is not so promising, owing to the coolness of the season.

The Annapolis Republican says that the Tobacco crop is unpromising, the insects having destroyed the plants—The Corn in Anne Arundel is unpromising, the weather having been too cool for it since planting.

Something new under the Sun—A new enemy to the cotton planter has made its appearance in Panola and De Soto counties, Miss. in the shape of innumerable *snails*, which eat up and destroy the plant, commencing with the leaf and ending their repast with the bud. They are apparently the common sized snail, without a shell, such as may be found adhering to the bark of trees in wet weather. Several plantations have been ruined by them.

Trial of Ploughs.

Cockeysville, Balt. Co. May 24th, 1842.

The undersigned were requested (by those persons who attended at a trial of the comparative effective value of the three plows mentioned below) to record the results, which were as follows: The ground was a strong loam, and had been pastured for many years. The measurements are the average of *three* for each plow.

1st. The *Wiley Plough*—

Depth of furrow,	5¼ inches
Breadth of do.	12 do.

Draft of traction as indicated by the dynamometer, 620lb.

2d. *Chenowith's Improved Davis*—

Depth of furrow,	7 7-8 inches
Breadth of do.	13 do.
Draft as before	735 lbs.

3d. *Barnaby & Mooers'* patent hill side and level land plough—

Depth of furrow	6 inches
Breadth of do.	13 do.
Draft as before	475 lbs.

The area of the cross section, or amount of furrow slice turned over by each plow with 112lbs. draft is as follows:

1st. Wiley,	11½ square inches
2d. Chenowith	13 7-8 do.
3d. Barnaby & Mooers',	18 3-8 do.

Showing the comparative amount of work done by Barnaby & Mooers' plough over Wiley's to be 62 per cent. and over Chenowith's 32 per ct.

In those trials, the furrows were *lapped*. The work was much more uniformly and smoothly done by Barnaby & Moores' plow than either of the others. In laying the furrows *flat*, a curved sward coulter was used, and the work was perfectly well executed by B. & M's. plough.

It was found also to work extremely well on a steep, stony hill side. Signed, P. T. Tyson,
N. Gorsuch,
Wm. Webster.

From the Transactions of the N. Y. Agricultural Society.

History and Characteristics of the Several Breeds of Sheep.

By Henry S. Randall.

Native Sheep.

Although this name is popularly applied to the common coarse wooled sheep of the country, which existed here previously to the importation of the improved breeds, there is, properly speaking, no race of sheep "native" to North America. Mr. Livingston, in speaking of a race as "indigenous," only quoted the language of another, and his informant was either mistaken as to the fact, or misapprehended the term. The only animal of the genus *Ovis*, originally inhabiting this country, is the Argali, known to our enterprising travellers and traders who have penetrated to the Rocky Mountains, where the animal is found, as the Big Horn. Though the pelage of the Argali approximates but little to the wool of the domestic sheep, they are, as is well known, considered by naturalists to have belonged originally to the same species; and the changes which have taken place in the form, covering, and habits of the latter, are attributed to his domestication, and the care and skill of man during a long succession of years.

The common sheep of the United States were of foreign and mostly of English origin. The writer of the volume on sheep, in the "Farmer's Series," (Mr. Youatt,) speaks of them as "although somewhat differing in various districts, consisting chiefly of a coarse kind of Leicester, originally of British breed." Others have seen or fancied they saw, in some of them, a resemblance to the South Downs. Mr. Livingston was of this number. But it is far more probable that they can claim a common descent from no one stock. Our ancestors emigrated from different sections of the British dominions, and some portion of them, from other parts of Europe. They brought their implements of husbandry, and their domestic animals, to fertilize the wilderness. Each, it would be natural to suppose, made choice of the favorite breed of his own immediate district, to transport to the New World, and the admixture of these various races formed the mongrel family now under consideration. Amid the perils of war and the incursion of beasts of prey, they were preserved with sedulous care. As early as 1676, Mr. Edward Randolph, in a "Narrative of the Lords of the Privy Seal," speaks of New England as "abounding with sheep."

The common sheep yielded a wool only suited to the coarsest fabrics, averaging in the hands of good farmers, from 3 to 3½ lbs. of wool to the fleece. They were slow in arriving at maturity, compared with the improved English breeds, and yielded, when fully grown, from 10 to 12 lbs. of a middling quality of mutton to the quarter. They were usually long legged, light in the fore quarter, and narrow on the breast and back, although some rare instances might be found of flocks with the short legs, and some approximation to the general form of the improved breeds. The common sheep were excellent breeders, often rearing, almost entirely destitute of care, and without shelter, one hundred per cent of lambs, and in small flocks a still larger proportion. These, too, were usually dropped in March or the earlier part of April. Restless in their disposition, their impatience of restraint almost equalled that of the untamed Argali, from which they were descended; and in many sections of our country it was common to see from 20 to 50 of them roving with little regard to enclosures, over the possessions of their owner and his neighbors, leaving a large portion of wool adhering to bushes and thorns, and the remainder placed nearly beyond the possibility of carding by the "*Tory bur*," so common on new lands.

The old common stock of sheep, as a distinct family, have nearly disappeared, having been universally crossed to a greater or less extent, with foreign breeds of later introduction. The first and second cross with Merino, resulted in a decided improvement, and produced a variety exceedingly valuable for the farmer, who rears wool only for domestic purposes. The fleeces are of uneven fineness, being hairy on the thighs, dew-lap, &c.; but the general quality is much improved; the quantity is considerably augmented; the carcase is more compact and nearer the ground; and they have lost their unquiet and roving propensities. The cross with the Saxon, for reasons which we shall hereafter allude to, has not been generally so successful. With the Leicester and Downs, the improvement, so far as form, size, and a propensity to take on fat are concerned, is manifest.

Spanish Merino.

The history of this celebrated race of sheep, so far as it is known, has so often been brought before the public, that it is deemed unnecessary here to recapitulate it. The first importation of them into the United States, took place in 1801. Four rams were shipped by M. Delessert, a banker of Paris, three of which perished on the passage. The fourth arrived in safety at Rosendale, a farm owned by that gentleman, near Kingston in this State. In 1802, two pairs were sent from France by Mr. Livingston, the American minister, to his estate on the Hudson; and later the same year, Mr. Humphreys, our Spanish minister, shipped one hundred, on his departure from that country, for the United States. But they attracted little notice, until our difficulties with England led to a cessation of commercial intercourse with that power, in 1808, and 1809. The attention of the country being now directed towards manufacturing and wool growing, the Merino rose into importance. So great indeed was the interest excited, that from a thousand to fourteen hundred dollars a head, was paid for them. Other and numerous importations soon followed, and unfortunately some of the cargoes arrived in the worst condition, bringing with them those scourges of the ovine race, the scab and foot-rot. These evils and the increased supply, soon brought them down to less than a twentieth part of their former price; they could now be bought for $20 a head. When, however, it was established by actual experiment, that their wool did not deteriorate as had been feared by many, in this country, and that they became readily acclimated, they again rose into favor. But the prostration of our manufactories, which soon after ensued, rendered the Merino of comparatively little value, and brought ruin to numbers who had purchased them at their previous high prices. The rise which has since taken place in the value of fine wool, as well as the causes which led to it, are too recent and well understood to require particular notice. With the rise of wool, the valuation of the sheep which bear it, has of course kept pace.

The Merino has been variously described. This arises from the fact, that it is but the general appellation of a species, comprising several varieties, presenting essential points of difference in size, form, quality and quantity of wool. The Escurial flocks stand first in point of fineness. Attached to the convent *El Escurial*, within a short distance of the capital, and being the private property of the kings of Spain, no pains or care have been spared upon these beautiful flocks. They are of a good size, and fine form, "combining excellence," as is remarked by an intelligent writer, "scarcely admitting of improvement." It is supposed that most of the Escurial sheep which found their way into this country, are but indifferent specimens of this celebrated variety of the Merino. Their fleeces are somewhat lighter than those of the Paulars, Negrettis, &c. and altogether they bear a close resemblance to the *genuine* Saxons, of which they are the parent stock.

According to M. Lasteyrie, the Negretti "are the largest and strongest of all the Spanish travelling sheep." The Gaudeloupe "have the most perfect form, and are likewise celebrated for the quantity and quality of their wool." The Paulars "bear much wool of a fine quality; but they have a more evident enlargement behind the ears, and a greater degree of throatiness."

As the last named was one of the principal varieties introduced into the United States, a more particular description of it may not be unacceptable. The sheep of the Paular Convent are large, with heavy, but compared with the Escurial or Saxons, coarse fleeces. The wool of the pure bloods contains a considerable quantity of jarr or hair, and it abounds in yolk to such a degree, that it catches and retains at its extremities much floating dust, the pollen of hay, &c. This gives it a peculiarly stiff and hard feeling externally. It however forms an excellent protection against storms and cold. The form of the Paular is generally good, but an unusually large dewlap, so plated and doubled, as to go by the popular apellation of "the ruffle," extends from the lower jaw to the brisket, presenting a great obstacle to the shearer, and an unseemly and ungraceful appendage in the eye of the refined breeder. On the sides of the neck, and not unfrequently the face, the skin also lies in loose wrinkles. The head is coarse, and in the male, usually surmounted by large horns. The skill of the American breeder has obviated some of those defects, and there are some few (very few) flocks claiming purity of blood, which have little or no jarr, and almost entire absence of the throatiness, peculiar to this variety. It is to be apprehended, however, that in most such instances, they owe it to a cross with the Saxons.

There are some other varieties of the Merino, which we shall not pause to describe. Taken collectively, the Spanish rams, according to Chancellor Livingston, yield about eight and a half pounds of wool, and ewes five, which loses half in washing—making 4 lbs and a quarter, the average weight of fleece of the rams and two and a half the average of the ewes. Some varieties considerably exceed this estimate, and probably it would fall short if applied to the prime sheep of any variety. In the celebrated flock of French Merinos at Rambouillet, the average weight, exclusive of tag and belly wool, is six pounds to the fleece. It must be confessed however, that both Mr. Livingston and Mr. Humphreys assert, that the Rambouillet sheep carry more wool than any of the Spanish flocks. Col. Humphreys, in a letter to the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts, even goes so far as to state "that the improved stock of France yield twice as much wool as those of Spain." Some carefully selected small flocks in this country, which were "salved" after the preceding shearing, have averaged, including the ordinary number of rams, four and a half pounds of wool to the head. The gummy thick wool of the Merino can be but imperfectly cleansed on the back of the animal where it is the universal custom in the United States to wash it, and probably four pounds of *clean* wool would be as high as the maximum average in the choicest flocks. Few overgo three and a half.

The Merino, though the native of a warm climate, becomes readily inured to the greatest extremes of cold, flourishing as far north as Sweden without degenerating in fleece or form. It is a patient, docile animal, bearing much confinement without injury to health, and we never have been enabled to discover in it that peculiar "voraciousness of appetite," ascribed to it by English writers. Accurately conducted experiments have shown, that it consumes two pounds of hay per diem in winter; the Leicester consumes from three and a half to four; and the common wooled American sheep would not probably fall short of three. The mutton of the Merino, in spite of the prejudice which exists on the subject, is short grained and of good flavor, when killed at a proper age, and weighs from eight to ten pounds to the quarter. It is remarkable for its longevity, retaining its teeth and continuing to breed, two or three years longer than the common sheep,

or the improved English breeds; but it should be remarked in connection with this fact, that it is correspondingly slow in arriving at maturity. It does not attain its full growth before three years old, and the ewes in the best managed flocks, are rarely permitted to breed before they reach that age. The Merino is not a good breeder, the bearing ewes giving little milk, and sometimes neglecting their lambs. Eighty per centum would probably be as high as the average number of lambs usually reared.

Saxon Merino.

In the year 1765, Agustus Frederick, elector of Saxony, obtained permission from the Spanish court to import 200 Merinos, selected from the choicest flocks of Spain. They were chosen principally from the Escurial flock, and on their arrival in Saxony, were placed on a private estate belonging to the elector, under the care of Spanish shepherds.

So much importance was attached to the experiment, as it was then considered, that a commission was appointed to superintend the affairs of the establishment; and it was made its duty to diffuse information in relation the management of the new breed; to dispose of the surplus rams at prices which would place them within the reach of all holders of sheep; and finally, by explaining the superior value of the Merinos, to induce the Saxon farmers to cross them with their native breeds. Popular prejudice, however, was strong against them, and this was heightened by the ravages of the scab, which had been introduced with them from Spain, and which proved very destructive before it was finally eradicated. But when it became apparent that the Merino, so far from degenerating, had improved in Saxony, and that the Saxon wool exceeded the Spanish in fineness and value, the wise and patriotic efforts of the elector began to reap their merited success, and a revolution took place in popular sentiment.

The call for rams became so great that the government resolved on a new importation, to enable them more effectually to meet it, and to improve still further the stock already obtained. For this purpose an individual considered one of the best judges of sheep in Saxony, was dispatched to Spain in 1777, with orders to select three hundred. For some reason—probably because he experienced difficulty in obtaining a greater number presenting all the qualifications he sought, he returned with but one hundred and ten. They were from nearly all the different flocks of Spain, but principally Escurial, and were considered decidedly superior to the first importation. In addition to the establishment at Stolpen, already founded, others were now commenced at Rennersdorf, Lohmen, &c.; schools were established for the education of shepherds; publications were distributed by the commissioners to throw information on the subject before the people; and the crown tenants, it is said, were each required to purchase a certain number of the sheep. When we take into consideration the unwearied pains bestowed on this favorite object by Saxon government, the fact, that the Saxon variety are descended only from the choicest sheep of Spain; and that a degree of care and attention are bestowed on their breeding in the former country entirely unknown in the latter, it is not a subject of surprise, that the emigrant Merino in Saxony excels the parent stock, in the quality of his fleece, and that roundness of form and fineness of bone, which indicate better feeding properties. The Spanish shepherd is little changed from what he was in the days of Cardinal Ximmenes, or Pedro IV. with much practical knowledge of his business, but never dreaming of improvement; and his knowledge strangely blended with prejudices as ancient as the pedigrees of his sheep, running back to the period when Spain was a Roman province. He is *not the owner of the sheep under his care*, but the ill-paid servant of a titled family, or a religious order, who, in nine cases out of ten, are no more disposed or more competent to carry out a system for the improvement of their flocks, than himself. And finally, the Spanish custom of pasturing their sheep during the entire season in large flocks, without inclosures* to render the necessary division practicable, entirely prevents that nice adaptation to each other of the male and female selected for breeding; that counterbalancing of the defects of one parent by the marked excellence of the other in the same points, which exhibits the skill of the modern breeder.

*Neither are there inclosures in Saxony; but the division is effected by the bucks being placed in pens, and the ewes classified and marked; the ewes are from time to time driven in the yard around the pens, and when the teaser has selected one, it is placed in the pen of the buck for which it is marked.

In Saxony, and the other states of Germany, the case is far otherwise. The electoral flocks, the parent stem, are under the direction of commissioners appointed for their intelligence and knowledge of the subject; and the noted private flocks employed the first agricultural skill of the Saxon land-holders. The low price of labor, too, admits of a degree of attention and constant care over their flocks, unknown in other countries. The attention bestowed upon breeding, may be inferred from the fact, that in many of the flocks, every individual sheep is numbered and registered; its pedigree known, and its offspring recorded! The number and age of the sheep is expressed by an ingenious method of marking on the ear, invented by Mr. Thaer, which causes little mutilation, and which effectually distinguishes any number of sheep. "When lambs are weaned, (says Mr. Charles Howard, in a letter to the author of the volume on sheep in the "Farmer's Series,") each is placed upon a table that its wool and form may be minutely observed. The finest are selected for breeding, and receive a *first* mark. When they are one year old, and prior to shearing them, another close examination of those previously marked takes place: those in which no defect can be found receive a *second* mark, and the rest are condemned. A few months afterwards, a third and last scrutiny is made; the prime rams and ewes receive a *third* and final mark, but the slightest blemish is sufficient to cause the rejection of the animal."

Considerable attention has also been bestowed in Germany on the breeding of grade sheep—a cross between the Merino and the native sheep of the country these native sheep were of two varieties, and they bore a strong resemblance to the old common stock of the United States, those which were fed on the uplands being smaller and of finer fleece, and the lowland sheep carrying more flesh and coarser wool. The sheep holders, who were unable to purchase pure bloods, resorted to this cross. The wool of some of these flocks, after a few generations, has rivalled even the electoral in fineness; but it loses in quantity, as the native German carried much lighter fleeces than the Spanish sheep. The sheep themselves are much less perfect in form, the means of the common breeder not permitting, and indeed there being no prospect for an adequate return, should he bestow the same labor that the breeder of pure bloods does—sacrifice for the least defect, and, in short, incur the same expenses; when at best, his sheep will not sell for more than one-eighth or tenth of the price of pure bloods.

To be Continued.

ROOT CULTURE.

Root culture is not only an important means of improving the soil in a rotation system, but the products are the most valuable means of feeding and fattening cattle, and of producing manure. "It trebles," says Judge Buel, the amount of cattle food, and doubles the quantity of manure. It moreover may be made to supply a large amount of human food."

The principal roots suited to our climate, are the potato, turnip, carrot, beet, and those usually cultivated in our gardens. Of these the potato has come into general use. The *beet*, *carrot*, and the *Swedish turnip* are the most profitable, both as to their influence upon the soil, and for the value of their products. The English turnip is very valuable for an after-crop, and tends to increase the fertility of the soil, especially if cattle and sheep are turned into the field, and allowed to feed upon them. This means of fertility and of producing a large and valuable quantity of fall or after feed, is almost wholly neglected by our farmers. How easy it would be, after wheat or winter rye, to sow say about the twenty-fifth of July, with turnips, and in October a good supply of feed would be furnished for the farm stock.

In the cultivation of root crops more attention must be paid to the character of the soil and to its condition, than for the cultivation of grain crops, and hence it is that many farmers who have tried the beet and ruta baga have failed, by not attending to the proper conditions; but if the conditions are adhered to, the crop is as certain, and much more profitable than grain crops. We will now proceed to point out the requisite conditions for root culture, with the theory of the action upon the soil. Attention must be paid to the following particulars.

1. *The Soil.*—This should not be too light and sandy, nor too stiff and clayey; a light deep loam or alluvial soil is best adapted to this crop. If the soil is wet, that is, if water is ssffered to repose upon the subsoil, the roots will be injured and the crop fail. The soil should be dry, but not subject to drought. *Depth* of soil is a necessary requisite for beets and ruta bagas, in order that the roots may have full liberty to penetrate as far as needful for their perfection.

2. *A rich soil* is another requisite to success. This is desirable for all kinds of grain, but especially for root culture; for although roots do not draw upon the soil like grain crops, still there must be abundant food present, in order to give them that quality and perfection which makes them profitable crops. It may be that there is something in the constitution or vital powers of these plants, which renders a large quantity of nourishment necessary to their support. They may not possess the power of collecting food, like other plants; they cannot gather up the nourishment so readily, and hence must be fed with richer food. The soil must be *finely* pulverized, and, so far as is practicable, freed from stones. This is necessary in order that the roots may not be obstructed; finally, they should be kept free of weeds. The ground should be stirred with the cultivator and hoe. If sowed in rows, as they should be, this may be easily attended to with the plow and cultivator, without the necessity of resorting to the hoe more than once in the season.

Theory of the action of Roots upon the Soil.—1. They divide it better than most crops. 2. They deepen the soil by their roots; and 3. return to the soil a larger amount of manure than other crops.

Three acres of grass, at two tons per acre, will give less than 9000 lbs. to the cattle yard, while one acre of ruta baga or beets, will give 36,000 lbs. or more than four times as much as the three acres of grass land. It would, therefore, be economy for the farmer to raise roots merely for manure. But the one acre of ruta baga or beets (600 bushels,) are nearly equal to three acres of hay, as food for farm stock; hence the modes by which roots improve the soil, are dividing and deepening it, furnishing a large supply of food, which enables the farmer to keep a large farm stock, by which the quantity of manure is increased. Manure is the great source of fertility. In proportion, therefore, as root culture is made a part of a rotation system, we should expect the soils to increase in fertility.—*Gray's Scientific and practical Agriculture.*

PROSPECTUS OF THE

AMERICAN FARMER;

And Spirit of the Agricultural Journals of the day.

The "American Farmer," as its title imports, is a work wholly devoted to the cause of agriculture, and embraces within the range of its discussions every thing connected with the business of the farmer and planter, particularly of the Middle, Southern and Western States. Its pages are ever open to correspondents upon all the various topics of enlightened husbandry, and it shall be, as it ever has been, the business of its editor to elicit communications from the practical and scientific, and to cull from European authors as well as native journals, whatever he may deem of interest to the reader.

As the oldest agricultural periodical in the country—the pioneer in the great work of improvement—(now about commencing its 24th year of existence) – its *Proprietor* may, without arrogance call upon planters, farmers and others, throughout the country, to use their influence to extend the field of its usefulness, and while he makes this appeal he pledges himself to exertion on his part, to render it worthy of their fostering care and support.

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☞ All letters by mail to be post paid, addressed to

SAMUEL SANDS,

Pub. American Farmer, cor. Baltimore & North sts. Baltimore, Md.

Accumulation of Manure—use and action of Plaster—As manure made in summer, is universally admitted to be richer in those elements which afford the greatest quantity of nutritive matter, than that which is made in winter, it should be the aim, as it is the interest, of every agricultor to make his arrangements, with the object of increasing it during the summer months. There are so many sources of acquiring it at this season, that it would seem almost superfluous to point out any in particular; but as a hint judiciously and timely given, may serve to direct attention to materials that otherwise might be overlooked in the hurry of business, we will name a few of those substances, which should at once be brought into requisition. The leaves and mould from the woods, the mud and turf from the ditches and marshes, the scrapings of road sides, barn yard and lane, the weeds from the garden, fence corners, and headlands, the shatters from the pine forest, and the coarse weeds and grasses from the marshes, each and all form resources of great value to the farmer, if he but collect and form beds of them in his barn-yard and hog-pens. Once being placed in either of these places, to receive the droppings and voidings of his cattle and hogs, every shovel full, by autumn, will be equal in value to the best barn-yard, or stable manure.

Let no one say that it would cost too much, in money and labor, to thus accumulate manure; for such objection is utterly untangible, when it comes to be submitted to the test of common sense, reason and enlightened economy. Without a supply of manure, no farmer can reasonably expect to succeed in the raising of good crops, as every plant which he grows looks just as naturally to be fed as do the horses he works, or the cows that are milked by his dairy woman. And why should a man be wearing out the energies of his body and mind in tilling worn-out lands, when, by well-directed exertions, he can readily make them productive? A man with a yoke of oxen or a span of horses and cart, could collect from the woods and other places during the three summer and first fall months, and place in the barn-yard, eight hundred loads of the substances we have named, each of which would be intrinsically worth to its proprietor one dollar, making an aggregate value of eight hundred dollars; and surely there is no one, who understands the principles of domestic economy, who will say that this mass of manure would not be of more, infinitely more value, than the services of the hand, horses, or oxen, and cart, employed in any other way on the farm. We will not trouble the reader with a moneyed statement, to demonstrate the difference, because the thing is too obvious to need illustration. We think we have shown that a hand and team, thus employed, could collect a sufficient quantity of the material for making manure to dress 50 acres of corn, in four months, and when it is considered that the soil could be made to yield from eight to twelve barrels to the acre, and that the ground would be thereby improved so as to bear a rotation of subsequent crops, we think we are safe in affirming, that this would prove the most profitable employment on the farm.

To make the work complete, the stock should be provided with food every night in the barn-yard. While this would reconcile them to the confinement, the increase in the milk and butter of the milch cow, would more than pay all the expense of providing, cutting, and carting in the grass. Indeed, we doubt much, whether more time would be thus consumed, than is now devoted to hunting up the cows in the woods, or driving them from the pastures, of a morning.

Two acres well set in clover, rye grass and orchard grass, would supply food enough for a herd consisting of forty head; and surely no one will say, that these expenses are to be compared to the advantages to result from the ability to manure fifty acres of land yearly.

Previous to the removal of the manure next spring, it would be greatly improved in value both for present and future use, if plaster were mixed with it, at the rate of one bushel to every twenty loads. The plaster would give fixedness to, and prevent the escape of, the ammonia which might be formed and forming, and thus enable its owner to cover up and preserve a much larger quantity of that valuable nutriment, than he would otherwise be enabled to do. The ammonia when buried with the mass of the manure, would remain in the soil, where it would be dealt out, as from a store house, as the wants of the growing plants might require it. That such an application of plaster would be a judicious one, and that the virtues of the manure would be prolonged in their efficacy, we do not entertain the slightest doubt. Plaster, it may be said, is universally applied as a top-dressing, by being sown on the top of the soil. So it is, and it is not our wish now to interfere with that use of it; for our own experience has long since made us gratefully acknowledge its wonderful powers when thus applied. But because it acts, under such circumstances, almost with magic effect, is not a sufficient argument, in our estimation, that its virtues would not be equally potent when buried with a body of manure, in which the elements for the generation of ammonia abounded; as, in either case, we apprehend its capacity to increase the growth of plants, arises from its power of assimilating with and retaining certain gaseous bodies, which in themselves possess the properties of nutritive food, but which would otherwise soon be lost to vegetation, by being removed beyond the reach of the growing crop.

Though almost every one who has tried plaster is willing to admit its effects to be wonderful, a mystery has hung over the *modus operandi*, by which those effects have been produced. Even the sagacious and penetrating mind of the truly great Dr. *Priestley* could not unfathom the enigma. He at first objected to the then generally received opinion, that it was the *sulphuric acid* which it contains, that operated as a meliorating agent, because, as he alleged, plaster was insoluble, and that the acid therefore remained in combination with the carbonate of lime. Many other chemists besides Dr. Priestley believed in its insolubility; but later discoveries have proved, that plaster can be dissolved by from 400 to 500 times its own weight of water, so that, if that were necessary, this property was not wanting to let loose the sulphuric acid for the purposes of agriculture. Dr. Priestley, however, ultimately came to the conclusion, that by some process of nature, while in the earth, the plaster gave out its acid, which, when set free, performed the office, whose good effects were so very visible. Some contended that it was the *calcareous* principle or lime contained in plaster, which gave it its efficacy; but this has been long since abandoned as a substantive agency, as from the small quantity applied to an acre, it were impossible that such important results could be produced if its constituent, *lime*, was the operating one. Various opinions have been entertained by various writers, with respect to the manner of its operation—some considering it as a mere stimulant, while others presumed its virtues to arise from its power of attracting moisture from the atmosphere, and of retaining it. But according to our humble opinion, it remained for *Leibig* to find out the *how* of its action. His theory is given in a very few words. It is this:

"The action of *gypsum* (plaster) really consists in its giving a *fixed* condition to the *nitrogen*, or *ammonia*, which is brought into the soil, and which is indispensable for the nutrition of plants."

Again he says:

"The decomposition of *gypsum* by carbonate of ammonia does not take place instantaneously; on the contrary, it proceeds very *gradually*, and this explains why the action of the gypsum lasts for several years."

This discovery of Leibig is one of incalculable value to the agricultor, and should be freely practised upon, as by using plaster with his stable and barn-yard manures, he will increase their value to an immense extent, by the retention of their virtues in freshness, for a length of time, far beyond that of their ordinary duration when not so aided.

The *theory* of Leibig is completely borne out by the *practice* of that eminent practical farmer, John Taylor, of Caroline, Virginia, one of the closest agricultural observers of his day. In his use of plaster he discovered, that he derived as great benefit from it by mixing it with his long manure in the spring and ploughing it in, as in any other way, thus showing, at any rate, that its effects were not ascriptive *solely*, at least, to the property of attracting moisture from the atmosphere, as there was an equality of benefits whether buried or unburied—whether reposing in the bosom of the earth, or occupying a place on its surface.

We apprehend, that the mode of operation of plaster will, from the suggestions of Leibig, in a short time cease to be considered as involved in doubt and uncertainty—and we hope, that it will at a day not very distant, form a constituent of every compost heap and manure pile in our country.

Description of a French Plough.—A French plough, called the *Grange Plough*, is thus described by a writer in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture. It is a pity that the description is not sufficiently graphic to enable some of our mechanics to construct one, in order that its adaptation to the wants of our agricultural purposes might be tested:

"1st. It works of itself, not requiring the hand of a plowman either to enter the sock into the land, or to keep it in its true direction; a driver only is necessary.

2d. It can be set at any depth, and turns over the furrow slices at equal and regular depth.

3d. It moves as easily and even on very sloping land as on a flat.

These effects are produced by a simple kind of mechanism, which can be applied at the expense of about 12 francs to any common plow."

Plan of making Butter in Normandy, France—We make the following extract from a long article upon the subject of the agriculture in Normandy. The writer after describing a wretched breed of sheep peculiar to that country, and a still more wretched plan of managing them, speaks thus of the business of the *Dairy*, as conducted in that country at the present time:

"In the management of their cows and dairies the Normans do rather better, and the quality of their cream and butter cannot be surpassed. The cream alone is churned (not the milk as in some of the Dutch dairies) and this operation is performed twice a week, so that the cream stands only a short time. A sweet green pasture in summer, and sainfoin hay in the winter is considered the best for butter. Beets are sometimes given pretty freely in winter, but though this food increases the milk, it does not improve the butter, and with limited exceptions, neither beets, potatoes, or turnips are given to the cows that yield the best butter. It is found by experience that the "application of dung imparts in *spring time* valuable qualities to dairy pasturage, but the grasses in summer give, on dunged land, a rank flavor to butter."

The Norman dairymen insist that dairy houses should have a northern aspect at all times, as a south wind is prejudicial to milk; that cream should not be left in the milk room, as they mutually exert a pernicious effect on each other; that the floor should be flagged and washed in summer, to preserve coolness; that in the winter the milk should be strained into pans as soon as possible after milking, while in the summer the cooler it can be made the better it is for the cream. Pans of common earthenware are preferred to any others, having been found superior even to porcelain.

"The cream is skimmed twice a day generally, sometimes three times, and care is taken always not to leave it too long on the milk. Twenty-four hours, (sometimes forty-eight) in summer elapse before the first creaming, and the cream is allowed to lie as short a time as possi-

ble before churning. By day the cows are turned out, and at night kept in stables and supplied with sainfoin hay, which is admirable for dairy purposes."

Henrico Co. Va. Agricultural Society—This society held its annual Fair at Bacon Quarter, near Richmond, on Wednesday last, and we are happy to learn that the exhibition was a decided improvement upon that of last spring. The fruits and vegetables, the Enquirer states, were much better than its editor had any idea could have been produced. Among the fruits was a basket of *ripe pears*, sent by Miss Jane M'Kenzie; but in proof of the precociousness of the season, had ripened thus early—The *Butter* offered for the premium was the finest that has yet been exhibited—there could be no better. In the department of needle-work, the exhibition was limited, but exceedingly fine. The display and variety of *edged tools, agricultural implements*, and *articles of cabinet ware* were highly gratifying, as well as that of live stock. The Hon. James M. Garnett, delivered an address characterised by all that good sense, sound advice, excellent precepts and manly frankness for which he is so distinguished.

After the award of the premiums, the whole affair concluded with a good dinner, provided by Capt. Goddin, after the old Virginia fashion, at which Mr. Turner presided, assisted by Mr. T. S. Dickin, Vice President.

We gather these pleasing evidences of the success of the Henrico Society, from a brief account in the Richmond Enquirer, whose editor was the less minute, as he preferred leaving the particulars to the report of the society itself.

The "*Farmer's Land Measurer*," by Mr. Pedder, of Philadelphia, noticed by us a few weeks since, and for which numerous enquiries have been made, can be had in this city at the bookstore of Messrs. Cushing & Brother, 206 Baltimore street.

An interesting document on the subject of the Tobacco trade has been submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury, from which the following items are taken:

In Europe, the amount of American tobacco consumed in 1840, was 86,307 hhds. costing here $6,450,820, and on which the European governments derived a revenue of $35,071,821.

The production of tobacco in the country for 1840 amounted to 23,163,336 lbs. or 185,134 hhds.

The editor of the Charleston Courier says he witnessed the operation in that city of one of the portable Saw Mills of our fellow-townsman, Mr. Page, and says it was exhibited to the satisfaction of the spectators, and that it appears to be well calculated for the purposes contemplated, and therefore worthy the attention of the planter. "The advantages which the introduction of this simple and efficient application of power [the horse-power by which the saw mill is propelled,] into our state, cannot at present be appreciated. It can be applied to the cotton gin, the grist or flour mill, as well as the saw-mill; and the same team which hauls the plantation wagon or ploughs the land may be transferred to perform the above work."

The editor of the Farmer's Journal acknowledges the receipt of a bottle of wine, made of the juice of the white gage plum.

The Attakapas (La.) Gazette remarks—We published last week an article from the Opelousas Gazette, stating that the okra bark contained a kind of hemp which might be employed to advantage by our cotton planters, in making their own rope and cotton bagging. We have since received a sample of this new article, and were really astonished at its resemblance with genuine hemp, both as to color and strength. We have not the least doubt that it would fully answer the purpose just stated, if manufactured by persons understanding such business.

The Crops.—The Richmond Enquirer says:—We have heretofore alluded to the precocity of the season as regards fruit, vegetables and flowers. We have now a similar illustration as to the grain crops.—We learn from a distinguished farmer in Chesterfield, (Ampthill,) that he commenced his harvest on Thursday last, and he says one of his neighbors has surpassed him, having not only cut and shocked his wheat, but ploughed up his ground and planted corn, thus producing two of the staple crops on the same land in one year! Perhaps the earliest Wheat cut on the James River is near Pre-que Isle.

The Richmond Whig of Friday expressed the opinion that the Wheat crop in that State, although a fine one, would not be very large, as there was not as much seeded as in years past in consequence of the failure of some successive crops. A writer in the Petersburg Intelligencer utters a similar opinion.

The Lewistown (Pa.) Republican of the 25th ult. says, during the past week, we have had occasion to visit the county in different parts of the country, and are pleased to find that the crops of wheat and rye universally look well, and if not hereafter injured by the fly, the farmers throughout this county will reap an abundant harvest. The grass crops, though short, on an average look well.

The Hagerstown Herald says that the fly and rust have made their appearance in some of the wheat fields of Washington County, but it is thought that neither can seriously injure the grain.

The last St. Louis New Era says:—"We hear of the ravages of the Army Worm in every direction around us. The Locusts are also making their appearance in immense numbers."

The Upper Marlbro Gazette says, the Rye crop has failed in this county for several years past, and from present prospects the crop of this year will not turn out as well as the crop of small grain generally.

The crops in Kentucky, of Tobacco, hemp, corn and grain were never more promising than at this time.

In Missouri the tobacco plants have suffered much, as they have done in this state.

Winter grain is represented every where as promising abundant crops.

We are sorry to learn that an untimely frost has greatly injured early vegetation in the eastern and northern states. In New-England, and in the northern portions of New York, gardens had suffered greatly, and we suppose the fruit has been generally destroyed. If so, it is a great calamity. So late as the 16th of May, the summit of the Highlands, between Boston and Albany, was covered with snow an inch deep.

The Lebanon Pennsylvanian of Wednesday says:—A storm of unusual violence passed over a section of country between this place and the South Mountain on Sunday last, prostrating trees and fences, and doing other damage, At the same time that the storm raged to the south, a cloud passed over the Borough, from which, for about fifteen minutes, the rain, accompanied with hail from one or two inches in circumference, poured down in an almost unbroken sheet, inundating our streets at once and filling the Quittapahilla bank full before the rain had ceased.

The rain and hail storm of which we spoke in our last did considerable injury in the vicinity of Baltimore.

We understand from one of the Executive Committee of the P. George's County Agricultural Society that the Committee intend awarding Premiums for the best specimens of Tobacco at the next annual Meeting of the Society, in the following order, the samples to be drawn by a sworn Inspector.

For the best	Hhd. of	Tobacco,	$15
" 2nd	do	do	12
" 3d	do	do	10
" 4th	do	do	8
" 5th	do	do	5

The competitors for the above prizes will be required to exhibit certificates from the Inspector.

We would suggest the propriety of having an early meeting of the Executive Committee to fix upon the various premiums to be awarded at the meeting in November. —*Marlbro' Gazette.*

For the American Farmer.

Mr. Editor.—*Sir*: The interesting trial of ploughs published in your last paper reminds me of the fact, (for really the *deathlike silence* of its officers had made me forget it) that we have an Agricultural Society in our county, and being so reminded, I will with your permission, ask what the Executive Committee have done and is doing to insure a successful display at the October fair? Have its members visited the Farmers throughout the county, and urged them to prepare stock for the Exhibition? Have they taken steps to ensure the co-operation of the manufacturers of agricultural implements? Have they taken *active, zealous* and *effectual* means to procure subscribers, or members, both in the county and city? Have they raised a sufficient sum to offer a large premium for the best plough? Have they taken measures to enlist the ladies of farmers in the good cause, so as to ensure an exhibition of household manufactures, butter, &c. If they have not done one and all of these things, or do not set about it promptly, I fear our Society will not reflect much credit upon its fathers, who with such becoming spirit gave it incipient being.

A Baltimore County Farmer.

[We cannot answer our correspondent's inquiries; but from the known intelligence of the Executive Committee, and our confidence in their zeal, we think we may be permitted to promise, that there will be no faults of omission to place to their account.

Ed. American Farmer.]

Foreign News—The steamers Columbia at Boston, and Great Western at New York, bring London dates to 20th May. Trade had not improved in England, and business was, if possible, duller than at the last previous accounts. Money was abundant, and did not command over 4½ per ct. on loans. There had been little business in the Cotton market at Liverpool, and prices are not altered except for low qualities, which have declined a little. There had been a dreadful conflagration at Hamburg, by which 1500 to 2000 houses, embracing the finest part of the city, were laid in ruins, 30,000 inhabitants rendered houseless, 4 large and splendid churches are consumed, and property destroyed estimated, independent of the value of the houses, at $30,000,000 burned in the warehouses, of goods, and $20,000,000 for furniture and other valuables. Considerable insurance had been effected in London on the merchandize, but the house property was insured only in Hamburg. A subscription amounting to *l.*10.000 had been sent off from London to Hamburg; the king of Hanover had forwarded 200,000 marks, and the king of Prussia $25,000; the latter had ordered collections in all the churches in the kingdom, and from house to house. 120 persons were wounded, and a larger number supposed to be killed, 40 or 50 bodies had been found. About one-sixth of the city is destroyed—the population of the city is 150,000.

There had been a dreadful accident on one of the rail roads in France, by which upwards of 120 persons were killed and wounded.

State of the markets will be found on another page.

A Plowing Match.—At a stated meeting of the St. George and Appoquinimink Hundreds Agricultural Society, held at Port Penn, on the 19th inst; a small ploughing match "came off;" an account of which, the Society directed to be published in the Wilmington Gazette.

Major John Jones, one of our most enterprising farmers offered a premium of a Durham bull calf—out of Lady Cecilia by his premium bull R. M. Johnson, to any person who should produce the best plough and perform the best work. Several ploughs were entered, as competitors for the premium. The following is the report of the committee appointed to judge of the merits of the ploughs and their performances:

"The committee cannot but express themselves highly pleased with the work of the Prouty plough entered by Major John Jones. It was managed by Richard Carter, an experienced and very skilful ploughman, recently from England. They would also speak in terms of praise of the Miles plough belonging to Mr. John Barney. It did more work in the same time than any other plough entered, but his ploughman, Levi Saunders, not being quite so skilful as the Englishman—its work was not so neatly done as that of the Prouty plough. But the Committee feel bound—in consideration of its lightness of draught—of its breaking the land more completely—and the superior appearance of its work, although done by several hands, and some of them professed ploughmen—to award the premium to the Concave plough entered by Mr. Levi Ryan, of Middletown.

John Barney,
Benj. Caulk,
A. P. Reading,
} Committee.

May 21, 1842.

Georgia Bagging.—This article is now manufactured in Georgia, of cotton; it is said to be strong and elastic, 40 inches wide, and weighs 11 lbs to the yard.—*Salem N. C. Gazette.*

The Editor of the Boston Farmer's Journal acknowledges the receipt of a fine specimen of Isabella grapes that had been preserved by being packed in saw-dust.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOIL BY FALLOW CROPS, &c.

"The fallow time," says Liebig, "is that period of culture during which land is exposed to a progressive disintegration by means of the influence of the atmosphere, for the purpose of rendering a certain quantity of alkalies capable of being appropriated by plants."

By fallow crops is meant the raising of some crop on green sward while the turf is decaying, instead of allowing the land to remain a naked fallow during this process.

The object then of fallows, is to procure the decay of vegetable matters, and the abstraction of alkalies from the mineral portions of the soil.

Naked fallows accomplish both of these objects, and have been long practiced both in this country and in England. The practice with us has been to plow up grass lands in June or July, and after cross-plowing and harrowing, to sow with winter grain in September or October. In England the land was formerly plowed in the fall, and worked over during the following summer. In both cases one crop is lost; but, though naked fallows answer the intended purpose tolerably well, they are now abandoned by every intelligent farmer on both sides of the water; with the exception perhaps of wet stiff clays, which are ameliorated by exposing the naked furrows to the frosts of winter. The evils of the system are more than equivalent to the benefits. The labor is much increased, one crop is lost, and the vegetable matters are dissipated, by their exposure to the air during the process of working the land.

Fallow crops, on the other hand, avoid these evils, and secure greater benefit both to the soil and the crop.

Process.—To prepare the soil for a fallow crop, all that is needed is to plow the green sward and roll it down; then, after harrowing thoroughly, the seed should be sown upon the inverted furrows, either in the spring or fall. If the land is stiff and wet, the autumn is preferable; if light and dry, the spring is the best season.

The *utility* of fallow crops, instead of naked fallows, may be shown by reference to the influence of growing vegetables upon the soil. The elimination of alkalies and decay of vegetable matter are, as we have said, the only objects of fallows.

It may easily be shown, that both of these ends are much better attained by tilling the fallow land; for,

1. The alkalies are furnished in greater abundance by this process. It matters not whether the land is covered by woods, or with some crop which will take up but few alkalies, such as potash and phosphates. Now it is found that several leguminous plants will grow upon a soil, and will abstract from it but a minute portion of alkalies. The "Windsor bean (*vicia faba*) contains no free alkalies, and only one per cent. of the phosphates of lime and magnesia." (*Einhof.*) "The kidney bean (*phaseolus vulgaris*) contains only traces of salts." (*Braconnot.*) "The stem of lucern (*medicago sativa*) contains only 0.82 per cent., that of the lentil (*ervum lens*) only 0.57 of phosphate of lime with albumen." (*Crome.*) "Buckwheat, dried in the sun, yields only 0.681 per cent. of ashes, of which 0.09 parts are soluble salts." (*Liebig.*) Hence these plants and with others, have been called fallow crops. It will be perceived that the alkalies which the oxygen and carbonic acid of the air are eliminating from the soil, will be increased in this case, because the roots of the crop will permit these agents to act with greater power.

The power of growing plants to decompose the rocks, and to eliminate alkalies, has already been frequently referred to; and as but a small quantity of alkali is removed by the fallow crop, the amount in the soil is, upon the whole, increased.

2. It is further evident, that the roots leave in the soil *nearly* as much vegetable matter as is carried away in the stalks and grain. This deficiency is made up by the influence of growing plants upon the humus of the soil. There is little doubt, but that decay proceeds much more rapidly when the soil is tilled, than when it is not; and the reason is, the galvanic agency of the roots and the facility which they offer for the introduction of air and water, by loosening the soil, tend powerfully to hasten the decay of humus, or to convert the vegetable matters into vegetable food. *The fermentation of the sod will be more complete when it is turned in deep, and the gaseous products will be retained by the superincumbent earth; hence we may draw an argument for deep plowing, and for letting the sod remain until it has completely passed through the fermenting process.*

Turning in Green Crops.—The turning in of green crops, has long been a reputed source of rendering barren soils fertile. It is well suited to any soil which requires either to be rendered lighter, or to be filled with vegetable matter and salts. Light sandy soils, such as pine barrens and loams which have been exhausted by a long course of cropping without manuring, are most benefitted, while stiff clays are rendered much warmer and more friable.

Processes.—1. Green crops may be sown for the purpose and turned in, either before the seed ripens (in which case two crops may be turned in the same season,) or after the crop is nearly ripe. In the first case, before the ripening of the seed, the plant derives most of its substance from the atmosphere; but when the seeds are maturing, it draws directly upon the matters in the soil. Some experiments have been made to decide which course is best, and they incline to the dry crop.* If but one crop is to be added to the soil, this would be the best process, because it adds a greater amount of salts and humus; but two green crops are better than one dry crop. Buckwheat and oats answer well for this purpose.†

2. But the better course is to save the crop by sowing clover with other grain, and the next spring turn it in; and having rolled it down, plant directly upon the furrows with potatoes and corn. The surface then should be tilled with the cultivator or hoe, so as not to disturb the sod. Some recommend, in this case, to spread a light covering of compost manure, lest the soil should be too much exhausted by the crop.

Now it is found that the quantity of vegetable matters added to the soil by this process, will exceed 12 tons to the acre. Elias Phinney, Esq., of Lexington, has actually weighed the vegetable matter in a cubic foot of green sod, from which he made an estimate that one acre contained more than 13 tons!

The best time for turning in green crops, or breaking up green-sward (unless the soil is a stiff clay,) is the spring and early part of summer; because the sod will become rotted before winter, and will not afford, as it otherwise might, a shelter for worms, during that season, ready to injure the succeeding crop.

Theory.—The theory of this process is exceedingly simple. It is evident that what is taken from the soil must be returned to it, or the land will be impoverished. We have seen that salts and geine are removed. This process simply restores them.

1. The green crop being buried deeply in the ground, soon begins to ferment and decay; a large quantity of organic food is thus added to the soil. But humus or geine is not the only substance required by plants. They must have alkalies.

2. These are supplied in part by the influence of the atmosphere, the ordinary process of disintegration. But this is trifling compared with

3. The galvanic effects of the living plant. The agency of growing plants has hitherto been overlooked in this connection. As the roots form a galvanic battery with the soil, they become the most powerful decomposing agents. Now we know that the poorest soils (the pine-barrens) contain a large quantity of alkalies, potash, lime, etc. locked up in rocks. These are drawn into the organs of plants, where, as soon as covered with earth, they exist in a fit state to nourish future crops. If then, we can make a plant grow at all upon such soils, we can render them fertile by turning in green crops, and thus furnishing the requisite amount of geine, alkalies and salts. If the soil is too barren to produce plants, a small coating of ashes‡ will give a start to the green crop, and then the soil may soon be rendered fertile.

In case of clayey soils, the turning in of green crops not only restores what is exhausted by tillage, but renders the texture much better fitted for the roots of plants, and the soil itself a better retainer of heat.

In case of dry, gravelly soils, the additional vegetable matter gives the power of absorbing moisture and equalizing the heat; hence, it protects the plant from the extremes of dry and wet seasons.

The importance of this mode of improvement is not fully felt by our farmers. By sowing a few pounds of clover seed with his grain crops, the farmer may be constantly augmenting the fertility of his soil without the loss of a single crop; and even if his lands rest a year, and all their produce is given back to them, they will more than return it in a few years, by the larger quantity and better quality of their productions.

It will be seen that fallow crops and the turning in of green crops, are somewhat similar in their influence upon the soil. The object in both cases is to obtain alkalies or salts and geine. Fallow crops yield mostly the former, green crops principally the latter; and by both processes taken together, a soil may be rendered very fertile, without the addition of manures; especially for crops not requiring much nitrogen.—*Gay's Scientific and Practical Agriculture.*

Communicated for the National Intelligencer.

ON THE SILK CULTURE.

How fares the silk culture at present? is a frequent inquiry. We will attempt an answer; such a one at least as our opportunities enable us to give. This important interest to our country, to which we look as one of the means of supplying deficiencies occasioned by the depreciation of cotton and other agricultural products, at home and abroad, is, we think, silently gaining ground and rising to importance. Its commencement, or rather recent revival, has been attended with circumstances extremely unpropitious, not only in regard to the speculation in mulberry trees, but in relation to the introduction of ill-contrived machines for reeling, and the too exclusive dependance on the multicaulis. So far as the tree speculation was concerned, it was evidently based upon the extremely valuable nature of its product. The failure, and the consequent ruin and embarrassment it created, sickened the hearts of thousands, and cast a general stigma upon those engaged even in the legitimate objects of the silk culture. For more than two years it has been conclusively settled that no profit can at present be realized by the cultivation of the mulberry tree, unless it be through the actual production of silk. The question now is whether silk is made and whether its production is likely to continue? Reference to the public documents printed by Congress (No. 74, page 65) shows that in 1841 the crops of cocoons raised in the various States amounted to 379,272 lbs. The largest product in any one State was 198,432 lbs. in Massachusetts—a portion of our country far less favored in point of climate than the Middle, and especially the Southern, States. The next largest amount was 93,611 lbs. in Connecticut, and the third 17,324 lbs. in Pennsylvania. One bushel, or about ten pounds of cocoons, worth from $3 to $3,50 per bushel independant of the bounty, which, in several of the States, makes them worth to the raiser at least $5 per bushel, will yield at least a pound of reeled or raw silk, worth $5 per lb. clear of bounty. With further work upon it, this pound raw silk is converted into sewing silk, which sells readily at $9 per lb. Take this estimate, and the comparatively limited silk crop of last year saved the country at least $341,349 in specie. If the quantity manufactured into silk fringe and other articles or fabrics be taken into consideration, the amount saved might probably be estimated as at least half a million dollars for the year 1841! Is there reason to believe that the silk culture will extend itself in our country? We think there is, and will proceed to mention some facts upon which our opinion is grounded.

We know that in many parts of Pennsylvania persons are prepared, by the possession of trees and other appliances, to feed largely the present season. We know that an enterprising lady of Philadelphia (Mrs. McLanahan, No. 32 south 7th street) has been successfully engaged, for the last two years, in reeling silk from cocoons, and has been applied to by persons, far and near, in the Middle, Southern, and Western States, to know whether she would continue to purchase cocoons. We know that she has in all cases solicited them to supply her with what they may raise, and is making preparations to extend her filature and employ more reels, which are of the simple

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*We prefer ploughing in the *buckwheat* at the moment when it is in bloom, before the formation of grain, as up to that period a very large portion of its nutriment, owing to the formation of the leaves, and their affinity for the food of the atmosphere, is drawn from that source, and it is well known that plants exhaust the soil much more during the formation and ripening of the seed than at any other period of their growth.

†We prefer buckwheat to oats owing to its superior capacity to extract aliment from the air.

‡Where ashes cannot be procured, a bushel of plaster to the acre will produce the desired effect.

[*Editor American Faemer.*]

Piedmontese description, she having wisely rejected those new-fangled contrivances for reeling and making sewings which, three or four years ago, were vaunted about, to the great disappointment of those who purchased, and the effectual discouragement of such as used them. We know that this lady's filature, though begun under the most limited circumstances, and entirely without extrinsic aid or patronage, has sustained itself; and this after allowing liberal terms for cocoons. We know, moreover, of one individual residing in East Tennessee, who forwarded to this city, last fall, 200 lbs. of reeled silk, which was sold for $5 per lb., making the sum of $1,000. We know that this person is greatly encouraged by the results of last year's feeding and reeling, and states his intention of entering into the silk culture extensively, and that the people in his district are much in the spirit of producing an article to which their climate is particularly adapted, and which, unlike the heavy and bulky product of their soil, can be transported to market at a comparatively trifling cost.

In concluding our observations, we will make one or two recommendations, in hopes that they may attract the attention of some silk growers, to whom they may prove of service. First. Not to attempt to feed too many worms at one time. Very large numbers may be fed during the first two or three weeks upon little foliage and with small help. But the increased consumption and trouble of various kinds attending the last age, and especially at the period of mounting and spinning lead often to great embarrassment and ultimate discouragement. Secondly. To feed, if possible, during the last week or ten days, on leaves of some of the varieties of white mulberry, by which means the worms will be strengthened more than if continued on the less firm foliage of the multicaulis, and, continuing more healthy and vigorous, spin heavier and far better cocoons. For the first three weeks multicaulis leaves are ample for the sustenance of the silk worm, and many fine crops of cocoons have been made by no other means. But multiplied observation has convinced us that both the health of the worm and weight of its product are increased by feeding, the last week or ten days at least, on the foliage of some variety of the white mulberry.

Philadelphia, May, 1842. FRANKLIN.

A TARIFF BILL FOR REVENUE was on Friday reported by the indefatigable Committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives; and, now, if we may speak figuratively of the business of the session, all the irons are in the fire. We wish that none of them may burn!

We have glanced our eye over the bill, with a view to give the reader a general idea of its character. It proposes to lay duties on goods imported from abroad, on the chief articles thereof, as follows:

On unmanufactured wool exceeding eight cents per pound in value, thirty per centum ad valorem.

On the same article of the value of eight cents or under per pound, a duty of five per cent. ad valorem.

On all manufactures of wool forty per cent. ad valorem, except carpeting, blankets and some other articles, on which special ad valorem duties are proposed.

On cotton manufactured, three cents per pound.

On all manufactures of cotton not otherwise specified, thirty per centum ad valorem.

On all articles of silk, according to their character, thirty or thirty-five per cent.

On unmanufactured hemp, forty dollars per ton.

On iron, in bars or bolts, not manufactured by rolling, eighteen dollars per ton: on the same article made in whole or in part by rolling, thirty dollars per ton.

On lead, in pigs, bars or sheets, three cents per pound.

On cut glass, from twenty-five to forty-five cents per pound; on plain, moulded, and pressed glass, from ten to sixteen cents per pound.

On all articles of china or any other earthen ware, thirty per cent. ad valorem.

On tanned sole or bend leather, six cents per pound; on calfskins tanned and dressed, three dollars and fifty cents per dozen, &c.

On all bound books in the English language, twenty cents per pound, &c.

On raw sugar, two and a half cents per pound.

On teas, according to their quality, twenty cents, fifteen cents, ten cents, down to Bohea, on which a duty of three cents only is proposed.

On salt, ten cents per bushel.

After going through a long enumeration of specific duties a duty of twenty per centum ad valorem upon all remaining articles.

An additional duty of ten per cent. on all articles imported in foreign vessels in cases where a specific discrimination is not made in the bill.

All duties hereafter to be paid in cash.

The bill also proposes to *repeal* the proviso of the Land Distribution Act which suspends the operation of that act in the event of any duty being laid by Congress of a higher rate than twenty per centum ad valorem.—*National Intelligencer.*

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Coffee.—At auction to-day 2417 bags Rio were offered, and 2000 bags sold at 7a10 cents, the balance withdrawn. The bidding was not spirited, and taking the quality into consideration, the prices show a decline of nearly half a cent. per lb. as compared with the last public sale. At the same 1050 bags Laguayra were offered, and 160 bags sold at 9 cents. At auction on Thursday, 210 bags Rio were sold at 8¼a8 7-8 cents.

Molasses.—Sales of New Orleans in bbls. at 22 cents. At auction on Tuesday a small lot of Porto Rico, of common quality was sold at 22 cents.

Plaster.—A sale of a cargo at $2,50. Sales also of Eastern Ground at $1 per bbl.

Sugars.—We quote the range of prices for New Orleans at $3,50a6, and of Porto Rico at $4.75a$7. At auction on Tuesday, the cargo of the Gallant Mary, from Porto Rico, consisting of 146 hhds. was offered, and 80 hhds. sold at $5,45a$7,05. At the same time 48 hhds. part of the cargo of the Frances Jane, from Porto Rico, were sold at $5,50a6,20.

Tobacco—The inspections continue unprecedentedly large. The demand for Maryland during the week has been fair, and prices continue to be well maintained notwithstanding the heavy receipts. Middling and good qualities most inquired for, and all of this description sells as soon as it reaches the market. We quote inferior and common Maryland at $2,50a$3,50, middling to good $4a$6,50, good $7a$8, and fine $8a12. The better descriptions of Ohio are also in good demand, but the common sorts are neglected, and in order to effect sales, lower prices have to be submitted to. We quote as before, common to middling $3,50a$4,50, good $5a$6, fine red and wrappery $6.50a$10, fine yellow $7,50a$10, and extra wrappery $11a$13. The inspections of the week comprise 1445 hhds. Maryland, 435 hhds. Ohio, and 2 hhds. Virginia—total 1882 hhds.

Cattle.—The offerings of Beef Cattle at the drove yards to day amounted to 240 head, of which 100 head were taken by the butchers at $4.50a$5,50 per 100 lbs. as in quality. About 200 were driven North and the balance laid over.

Flour.—We note a sale of 500 barrels Howard street Flour of good standard brands from store on Saturday at $5,62½. To-day holders are asking $5,68¾ but we are not advised of any sales. The wagon price is $5,50.

We hear of no transactions in City Mills Flour.—Holders ask $5,75, cash.

Sales of several hundred bbls. Susquehanna Flour to-day at $5,62½ per bbl.

Grain.—No Md. Wheat at market for several days. Several parcels of Pennsylvania red Wheat were sold on Saturday and to-day at $1.20a$1,22. We quote Md. Corn at 52-a53 cts. for white and 56 cts. for yellow. Sales of Pennsylvania yellow Corn at 55 cts. and of Penna. Rye at 64a66 cts. Sales of Md. Oats at 37a38 cts. and of Pennsylvania at 38 cts.

Provisions.—In barrel provisions there are no sales, and prices are unchanged. We quote Mess Pork $7,50a$8; No. 1 at $6,50a7; Prime at $5,50a6; Baltimore Mess Beef at $9,50 No. 1 $6.50a$7; and Prime at $4,50. A rather better demand has been experienced to-day for Bacon, and some sales of Western assorted have been made at about ¼ cent. advance on last week's prices. We quote the range however as before viz. Western assorted at 3¼a4 cts; Hams at 5a7¼; Sides at 3¾a4 cents and Shoulders at 3¼a4 cts. We note a sale of 20,000 lbs. prime old Sides to-day at 3¼ cts. There has been considerable inquiry for Lard-to day, and we note one sale of 200 kegs of No. 1 Western at 6 cts.

From a circular of Messrs. Baring & Co.

London, May 18—There has been very little doing in markets generally since 6th inst. Money a little less abundant. Buyers find no inducement to come forward until the Tariff, which is still under discussion in the House of Commons, is settled—and it is scarcely to be wondered at, where so many interests are affected.

The extensive arrivals of Cotton, being anticipated have not materially affected the market, though ordinary qualities of American being more freely offered, must be quoted rather lower. Holders generally seem disposed to meet the market, —and this, coupled with the continued flatness at Manchester, does not tend to induce spinners to extend their purchases. The imports to 30th April, and Stocks 1st inst., were as follows:

	1841.	Imports.	1842.
Great Britain,	439.557		540.000 bales
Other ports of Europe,	186,925		218,741 do.
Totals,	626, 482		758,941
	1841.	Stocks.	1842.
Great Britain,	518,670		640,000 bales
Other ports of Europe,	201,021		229,721 do.
Totals,	719,691		869.721 bales

In Tobacco no change to notice, having scarcely a transaction whereon to found quotations, we still hope, however, a demand will arise ere long, especially as the quality of new crop is said to be so inferior. Sales Turpentine since our last, 3000 bbls. Wilmington, just arrived at 42s. 6d. per cwt. from the vessel. Dealers now pretty full of stock. Spirits dull, but a fair demand prevails for Rosin.

The transactions in American Stocks continue very insignificant, and we perceive but little progress in the return of confidence.

Liverpool Cotton Market, May 19—To day there has been more activity in the Cotton market, and the sales amount to at least 6000 bags, including 1200 American on speculation, and 1000 for export. The market is not quite so freely supplied, and prices are fully supported.

Friday, May 20—A considerable business has been done in the cotton market this week, there having been an active demand, especially during the latter part of it. The sales amount to 31,250 bags, and of this quantity speculators have taken 4500 American and 500 Surat, and exporters 2000 American and 100 Brazil.

Notwithstanding the largeness of the stock of Cotton in the port, holders have not been very urgent sellers, and last Friday's prices have not been readily obtained for all descriptions. There was some improvement in the demand for yarn and goods last Tuesday at Manchester, which has had the effect of inducing the trade to enlarge their speculations in cotton. There has been declared for public sale next Friday, 1200 bales of Sea Island.

The import of the week amounts to 21,922.

To-day there has been active demand, and the quantity disposed of amounts to 7000 bags, including 1000 American on speculation. Prices are steady, although the market continues to be pretty freely supplied.

Sales from the 14th to the 20th instant 31,250 bales inclusive, of which 38 Sea Island, 10a12, 30 Strained do, 6¼a7¾, 5250 Upland, 3¾a5, 16,480 Orleans 3 7-8a8¼, 4,180 Alabama and Mobile 4a6¾, 2,400 Surat, 3a4.

Liverpool Corn Exchange, May 20.—The duty is reduced on foreign Wheat to 12s. per quarter, on Flour to 7s 2½d per bbl. and on colonial Beans at 2s per quarter, that on all other produce remaining unvaried until this day week.

Liverpool Tobacco Trade, May 20.—The sales of Tobacco since the close of last month amount to 360 hhds—viz. 200 Virginia Leaf, and 60 Stemmed, 20 Kentucky Leaf and 80 Stemmed. About 150 hhds have been for Ireland, a few leaf as low as 2¾ per lb, and Stemmed at 3¾ per lb. The trade buy sparingly, and sales of Kentucky Stemmed have been made at rather a little below the quotation of prices for April.

Imports in May,	213 hhds.
Deliveries,	352 "
Present stock,	0680 "

DAVENPORT'S PATENT HORSE POWER, THRASHING AND WINNOWING MACHINE.

The subscriber would respectfully inform farmers and others interested in Agricultural pursuits, that he has purchased the sole right for the use, manufacture, and vending the said machines for the States of Maryland and Virginia. The thrasher and cleaner are so constructed that it requires no more time or labor in preparing the Grain for market, than ordinary machines do in thrashing only, and but little if any more than it would to cart and stack the same, 250 bushels of wheat or 400 bushels of oats may be done per day, with much ease. Those machines are portable and may be easily transported by one pair of horses, and to be used in the field or barn.

They may truly be said to be *Labour saving Machines*, four horses being abundantly able to do the work by the week or month with much ease. It is confidently believed they are vastly superior in their model to any other now in use.

Certificates from hundreds of the most extensive and respectable farmers in Pennsylvania and Maryland can be obtained, testifying to their superior excellence, not only to the manner of thrashing and cleaning the Grain, but also for their adaption for service, being very simple in their construction, and not liable to break of get out of order.

It is however, quite unnecessary to say much in regard to their utility, further, than to call public attention to them, as it is presumed every farmer will want to satisfy himself by seeing them in their operations.

The subscriber intends shortly to commence the manufacture of them and will send them to different parts of the State to be put in operation when those interested may have an opportunity of judging for themselves.

J. CROSBY, Proprietor,
41 South Charles street, Baltimore.

N. B. Any person wishing to purchase the right of counties for said machine or machines will please apply as above.

oc 27 2m

FOR SALE, AN AYRSHIRE BULE,

About 12 months old, deliverable in Baltimore at $75; he is out of imported animals, and his dam a very superior milker. Apply to S. SANDS.
je 8

FOR SALE,

At the subscriber's residence, 5 miles from Wilmington, on the Kennet turnpike, a fine JENNY, got by a splendid Maltese jack owned by Lloyd Rodgers, esq. Baltimore—This jenny being sold for want of use shall be disposed of on reasonable terms.
je 8 3t ANT Y BIDERMANN.

MINGO CHIEF,

Will make his first season in Maryland, and be let to Mares at the Farm of Mr. J. P. E. STANLEY, 4 miles from Baltimore, on the Frederick road, at TEN DOLLARS for each Mare.

MINGO CHIEF is five years old this spring, near fifteen hands high, of a rich brown colour, perfectly formed for speed and action, goes all gaits naturally, and is very fast under the Saddle.

MINGO CHIEF was got by an Indian Horse, (grandsire of the famous trotting horse Beppo, and many other celebrated trotters and rackers;) that in his prime has racked his mile in 2—30, and although upwards of 20 years old, is still kept for Mares in Canada.

The dam of Mingo Chief was pure Canadian, and could trot a mile in 3 minutes without training. Mingo Chief was selected during the last summer in the neighborhood of Montreal, by a gentleman experienced in these matters, as being the best horse he could find to cross upon the stock of this part of the country for the production of Saddle Horses. The celebrated Morgan Breed of Vermont is said to be of the same cross.

Season to commence 1st April and end 1st August.
ap 13 E. WEEKS, *Manager.*

HARVEST TOOLS.

IN STORE—Waldron & Griffin Grass SCYTHES, and superior Scythe Sneaths; 2 & 3 prong'd tine Hay Forks; Boye do.; superior Pennsylvania made wooden Hay Forks; New England made Hay Rakes, treble bowed; superior made grain Cradles, with Waldron blades, the fingers adjusted by screws, several superior Horse Powers and Thrashing Machines, the latter of various make, prices from $35 to $100 independent of the power; a few Wheat Fans (small size,) also one very large size horizontal wheat Fan, a prime article; Corn Shellers, made with upright and stopping stands, both made in the very best manner; 12⁰ Corn Cultivators, the hoes are of wrought iron and well steeled; also, Tobacco Cultivators; a great variety of Cultivating Ploughs with wrought and cast shares—Likewise an extensive assortment of plough Castings at wholesale and retail. The stock of cylindrical Straw Cutters on hand is large, embracing all sizes of both iron and wood frames. The usual stock of other implements is large and too numerous to mention. All repairs done at short notice. J. S. EASTMAN,
may 18 36 West Pratt st.

HARVEST TOOLS, THRESHING MACHINES, &c.

FOR SALE BY THE SUBSCRIBERS,

GRAIN CRADLES, made with wood and iron braces, and finished in superior style.
GRAIN AND GRASS SCYTHES, warranted best quality.
HAND AND HORSE RAKES, several of the most approved sorts
SICKLES, WHETSTONES, &c.
GRASS SCYTHES, with hangings complete.
CULTIVATORS, for Corn and Tobacco, made to expand and stationary
CORN HARROWS of all sorts
KNOWLES' Patent Grain and Grass Cutting Machine, which is probably the best machine of the kind in this country.

HORSE POWERS, 2 sizes, for 2 or 4 horses, made very durable and on the most simple principles
THRESHING MACHINES, two most approved sorts.
WHEAT FANS, combining Rice's and Myers' improvements, construction very simple, and performance rapid and perfect.
PLOUGHS, 25 sorts, including all the preferred sorts.
VEGETABLE CUTTERS
MILLS, CRUSHERS
DRILL MACHINES
Cylindrical Straw Cutters
Churns, Corn Shellers
Garden and Field Seeds, a general assortment

FARMING AND GARDEN TOOLS.
ROBT. SINCLAIR, jr. & CO.
mh 18 46 Light street.

LIME—LIME.

The subscriber is prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street, Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

He invites the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally or by letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously. N.B. Wood received in payment at market price.
ap. 22 3m E. J. COOPER.

REAPING MACHINES, CORN AND COB CRUSHERS, CORN SHELLERS, &c. WARRANTED.

The Reaping Machine stands alone, increasing in reputation from year to year, saving its first cost in one large crop in the waste alone, while the attempts of others, to construct machines for a similar purpose, are well known to be total failures. Those who wish to procure Machines for the ensuing harvest, are requested to make early application to the subscriber, who has greatly improved them since last year. Corn and Cob Crushers, warranted superior to all others, also, Corn Shellers and Huskers constantly on hand at reduced prices.
fe 23 OBED HUSSEY.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The subscriber has for sale, genuine Berkshire Pigs of the celebrated stock of C. N. Bement, Esq. of Albany, N. Y. at the very reduced price of *Ten Dollars* per pair. Apply to Robt. Sinclair, Jr. or the subscriber at Elkridge Landing.
RICHARD B. DORSEY.

Also a Berkshire Sow about 9 mos. old, and a sow 18 mos. old.
ap 20 4t*

MILLWRIGHTING, PATTERN & MACHINE MAKING

By the subscriber, York, near Light st. Baltimore, who is prepared to execute orders in the above branches of business at the shortest notice, and warrants all mills, &c. planned and executed by him to operate well.

Murray's Corn and Cob Crushers for hand power	$25
Do. by horse power, from 6 to 12 bushels per hour,	35to40
Corn Shellers, shelling from 30 to 300 bushels an hour,	15to75
Portable and Stationary Horse Powers	75to150
Self sharpening hand Mills, a superior article,	12
Cylinder Straw and Oat cutters, 2 knives,	20a35
Mill, carry log, and other Screws, 2 small Steam Engines	3 to 4 horse power.

Any other machines built to order.

Patent rights for sale for the Endless Carriage for gang Saw Mills, a good invention.

☞Orders for crushers can be left with any of the following agents: Thos. Denny, Seedsman, Baltimore; J. F Callan, Washington, D. C; Calvin Wing, Norfolk; S Sands, Farmer office; or the subscriber, JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, Baltimore.
may 28 1y

DURHAMS.

A gentleman who is overstocked, and without pasturage, will sell on terms that cannot fail to please, several very superior yearling Heifers, and a this spring's Bull calf; they are out of celebrated milking stock, and from imported animals. S. SANDS.
may 25 3t

BERKSHIRE PIGS—DEVON CATTLE.

For sale by JOHN P. E. STANLEY,
mh 9. Or apply at No. 50 S. Calvert St. Baltimore.

MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Threshing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shortest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment R. B. CHENOWETH,
corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No 20, Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

THE LIME KILNS.

The subscriber, in order to meet the increasing demand for Lime for agricultural purposes, has established Kilns for burning the same on the Rock Point farm, belonging to the Messrs. Lancaster, in Charles county, Md where he is ready to supply all demands for this section of the state, and the waters of the Potomac, on accommodating terms. Orders directed to him at Milton Hill Post Office, Md. will meet prompt attention.
de 7 6m* WM. M. DOWNING.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The subscriber will continue to receive orders for their spring litters of young Berkshire Pigs, from their valuable stock of breeder (for particulars of which, see their advertisement in No 34 or 37, Vol. 2 of this paper.) Price at their piggery $20 per pair; cooped and delivered in, or shipped at the port of Baltimore, $21 per pair.

All orders post paid will meet with prompt attention—address,
T. T. & E. GORSUCH.
Hereford, Baltimore Co. Md. mh 23

PROUTY & MEARS' $100 PREMIUM PLOUGH.

Received at the office of the American Farmer, two sizes of the above celebrated plough, to which was awarded the prize of $100 at the Massachusetts Fair. Farmers and others are invited to call and examine them. Orders received for them, as also for the Wiley and other ploughs, by m 30 SAML. SANDS.

MURRAY'S CORN & COB CRUSHERS.

The subscribers, inventors and patentees of this most excellent machine, offer for sale the right to manufacture for any state or county in the U. States. That this machine will be adopted, and become in general use in the corn-growing districts of our country there can be no doubt, as it is satisfactorily ascertained that more than one-third of the value of the produce is lost by the waste of the cob, which being crushed and ground with the grain, is more valuable for stock than corn fed by itself, and we guarantee that our Crusher will do more and better work with the same power than any other machine of the kind now in use, and invite all manufacturers to a fair trial.

☞We have appointed Mr. SAMUEL SANDS the sole Agent for the sale of rights, who will give every necessary information to those desirous of purchasing. All letters must be post paid.

NOTICE—There are several machinists infringing upon our patent CORN and COB CRUSHERS—we therefore forbid all persons from making, vending or using Corn Crushers having a tube or tubes for holding the ears of corn while they are broken, except such as have rights. JAS. & WM. MURRAY,
mh 2 Baltimore, Md.

TO FARMERS.

The subscriber has for sale at his Plaster and Bone Mill on Hughes street, south side of the Basin, GROUND PLASTER, GROUND BONES, OYSTER SHELL & STONE LIME, and LEACHED ASHES, all of the best quality for agricultural purposes, and at prices to suit the times.

Vessels loading at his wharf with any of the above articles, will not be subject to charges for dockage or wharfage
fe 23 WM. TREGO, Balfimore.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY,

Manufactured and for sale by A. G. & N. U MOTT
South east corner of Ensor and Forest sts. near the Bel-air market, Old Town, Baltimore,

Being the only agents for this state, are still manufacturing WILEY'S PATENT DOUBLE POINTED COMPOSITION CAPT PLOUGH, which was so highly approved of at the recent Fair at Ellicott's Mills, and to which was awarded the palm of excellence at the Govanstown meeting over the $100 Premium Plough, Prouty's of Philadelphia, and Davis' of Baltimore, and which took the premium for several years at the Chester Co. Pa. fair—This plough is so constructed as to turn either end of the point when one wears dull—it is made of composition metal, warranted to stand stony or rocky land as well as steel wrought shares—in the wear of the mould board there is a piece of casting screwed on; by renewing this piece of metal, at the small expense of 25 or 50 cts. the mould board or plough will last as long as a half dozen of the ordinary ploughs. They are the most economical plough in use—We are told by numbers of the most eminent farmers in the state that they save the expense of $10 a year in each plough. Every farmer who has an eye to his own interest will do well by calling and examining for himself. We always keep on hand a supply of Ploughs and composition Castings—Price of a 1-horse Plough $5; for 2 or more horses, $10.

We also make to order other Ploughs of various kinds.

MOTT'S IMPROVED LARGE WHEAT FAN, which was so highly approved of at the recent Fair at Ellicott's Mills and at Govanstown, as good an article as there is in this country—prices from 22 to $25.

A CORN SHELLER that will shell as fast as two men will throw in, and leave scarcely a grain on the cob nor break a cob, by manual power; price $17.

CULTIVATORS with patent teeth, one of the best articles for the purpose in use, for cotton, corn and tobacco price $4, extra set of teeth 1.

HARROWS of 3 kinds, from 7 to $12.
GRAIN CRADLES of the best kind, $3.75.
HARVEST TOOLS, &c.

Thankful for past favors we shall endeavor to merit a continuance of the same. ja 26 tf

MOTT'S AGRICULTURAL FURNACE.

The subscriber respectfully informs his customers, and the public generally, that he has on hand, and intends constantly to keep, a supply, of MOTT'S JUSTLY CELEBRATED AGRICULTURAL FURNACES, for cooking vegetables and grain for stock of all kinds. They vary in size from HALF a barrel to FOUR barrels, and are better adapted to the purpose for which they are intended than any other yet invented; obtained the premium of the American Institute, and have given satisfaction to every gentleman by whom they have been purchased. Col. C. N. BEMMN, the distinguished agriculturist near Albany, New York, who has had one in use for some time, in a letter to the editor of the Cultivator, says.

"The one I purchased last fall, I continued to use during the winter, and have found no reason to alter the opinion then expressed; but on the contrary, I am more confirmed, and do not hesitate, without qualification, to recommend it, with the ate improvements, as superior to any thing, for the purpose intended, which I have ever used, or which has fallen under my observation."

"Mr. Mott has lately sent me one of the capacity of two barrels, containing the improvements, which consist in casting "points of attachment" or gudgeons, on the rim or sides of the kettle, "so that with a crane or level" it may be raised out of the casing and the contents emptied out, and to facilitate which, a loop or eye is cast on the bottom of the kettle so that it can be done without burning the fingers. The flange also, has been extended beyond the edge of the casing, so that if water boil over it will not run down the flues and put out the fire."

These furnaces and boilers are portable and may be set up in any out-house, being from their compactness and conteruction perfectly safe. The furnaces are made of cast iron and peculiarly calculated to economise fuel.

The following are the prices for one of the capacity of a half barrel $12,50

do	do	do	One barrel	20,00
do	do	do	One and a half	24,00
do	do	do	Two barrels	28,00
do	do	do	Three do	38,00
do	do	do	Four do	48,00

A. WILLIAMS, Corner of Light & Pratt St. Balt. Md.
de 15 tf

MURRAY' SCORN & COB CRUSHERS.

The subscriber, who exhibited the Corn and Cob Crusher and Grinder at the Agricultural meeting at Govanstown, continues to build them, and has so improved them that persons who have not got horse powers, can use them by hand power, with sufficient facility to supply the wants of small farms, and with one or two horse power can do more work, he believes, than any other machine for the same purpose that will require double the power. Having made a new set of patterns, and put such improvements as may have suggested themselves for the benefit of the machine, he has been obliged to increase the price to $40, which includes an extra set of grinders.

He is also prepared to build portable HORSE POWERS of the very simplest and best construction, in every respect best suited for farmers; in place of using cast iron wheels, he uses leather belts, which the farmer can keep in repair himself. It is now well tested that belts are as well adapted to driving machinery as cast iron wheels.

☞Orders for the above machines can be left with Mr. SAML. SANDS, at the office of the American Farmer, or with the subscriber, WM. MURRAY, Powhatan Factory,
fe 2 Baltimore county.